



*Jessica Hodges*  
**ALL ABOUT** *Education*

**PREMIERE**

NOVEMBER  
2014

A PUBLICATION OF MOR MEDIA, INCORPORATED

- MIRACLE RODEO
- EAGLE FUN RUN
- CITYWIDE TAILGATE
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On the Cover: Jessica Hodges  
 Photo by Tim Rand Photography

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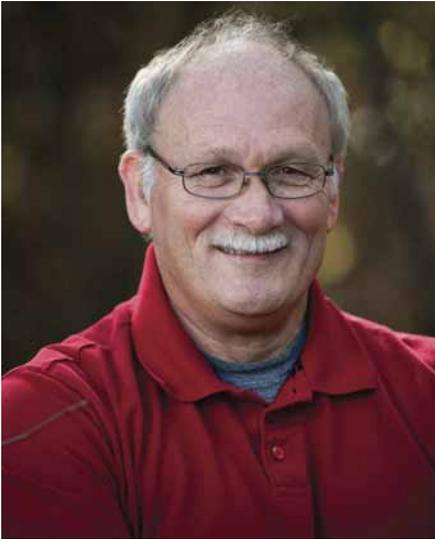


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## From The Editor...



Richard Brummett, Managing Editor

**A**merican Diabetes Month takes place each November and is meant to be a time to come together as a community to help stop diabetes.

Raising awareness of this ever-growing disease is one of the main efforts behind American Diabetes Month (ADM), with

programs designed to focus the nation's attention on the issues surrounding diabetes and the many people who are impacted by it. Diabetes is a disease in which the body has trouble changing food into needed energy. As a result, the levels of sugar in the blood become higher than normal. Often diabetes goes undiagnosed because many of its symptoms seem so harmless.

Recent statistics show that nearly 30 million children and adults in the United States have diabetes. Another 86 million Americans have prediabetes and are at risk for developing Type 2 diabetes.

The American Diabetes Association estimates that the total national cost of diagnosed diabetes in the United States is \$245 billion.

In order to help us draw attention to the illness and its prevention, four area residents agreed to share their stories this month, beginning with our cover story featuring Jessica Hodges on page 26.

November is also a month to focus on Thanksgiving and hope, and we think we

have feature stories to direct your thoughts accordingly.

It was poet Ralph Waldo Emerson who said, "Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude."

This month we are happy to provide features about people doing good things for others through events like The Travis Hedge Miracle Rodeo and the United Way's Day of Caring, just to mention a couple.

And, as always, there is plenty more to choose from. Premiere photographers were at events throughout the Paragould and Jonesboro areas and readers seem to enjoy looking for friends -- or themselves -- in the photo pages provided. You can flip through recaps of things like Go Pink Day, Greene County Tech's Eagle Run, the Miracle Rodeo and family events sponsored by the Lafe Fire Department and Lafe Baptist Church.

Take a look. See if you're in there or if you know someone who is as you enjoy this month's Premiere. ♦

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# Thanksgiving turkey, pumpkins and much more



**W**hen Americans sit down with their families for Thanksgiving dinner, most of us will probably gorge ourselves on the same traditional Thanksgiving menu, with turkey, cranberry sauce, stuffing, and pumpkin pie taking up the most real estate on our plates. How did these dishes become the national "what you eat on Thanksgiving" options, though?

## The Pilgrims may not have had turkey

Turkey may not have been on the menu at the 1621 celebration by the Pilgrims of Plymouth that is considered the First Thanksgiving. There were definitely wild turkeys in the Plymouth area, as colonist William Bradford noted in his journal. However, the best existing account of the Pilgrims' harvest feast comes from colonist Edward Winslow, author of *Mourt's Relation: A Journal of the Pilgrims at Plymouth*. Winslow's first-hand account of the First Thanksgiving included no explicit mention of turkey. He does, however, mention the Pilgrims gathering "wild fowl" for the meal, although that could just as likely have meant ducks or geese.

## So why do we chow down on turkey?

It helps to know a bit about the history of Thanksgiving. While the idea of giving thanks and celebrating the harvest was popular in

certain parts of the country, it was by no means an annual national holiday. Presidents would occasionally declare a Thanksgiving Day celebration, but the holiday hadn't completely caught on nationwide. Many of these early celebrations included turkey; Alexander Hamilton once remarked that, "No citizen of the U.S. shall refrain from turkey on Thanksgiving Day."

When Bradford's journals were reprinted in 1856 after being lost for a century, they found a receptive audience with advocates who wanted Thanksgiving turned into a national holiday. Since Bradford wrote of how the colonists had hunted wild turkeys during the autumn of 1621 and since turkey is a uniquely American (and scrumptious) bird, it gained traction as the Thanksgiving meal of choice for Americans after President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863.

Moreover, there were pragmatic reasons for eating turkey rather than, say, chicken at a feast like Thanksgiving. The birds are large enough that they can feed a table full of hungry family members, and unlike chickens or cows, they didn't serve much utilitarian purpose like laying eggs or making milk. Unlike pork, turkey wasn't so common that it didn't seem like a suitable choice

for a special occasion, either.

## There was no cranberry sauce, either

While the cranberries the Pilgrims needed were probably easy to come by, making cranberry sauce requires sugar. Sugar was a rare luxury at the time of the First Thanksgiving, so while revelers may have eaten cranberries, it's unlikely that the feast featured the tasty sauce. What's more, it's not even entirely clear that cranberry sauce had been invented yet. It's not until 1663 that visitors to the area started commenting on a sweet sauce made of boiled cranberries that accompanied meat.

## And pumpkin pie didn't cap things off

It may be the flagship dessert at modern Thanksgiving dinners, but pumpkin pie didn't make an appearance at the First Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims probably lacked the butter and flour needed to make a pie crust, and it's not clear that they even had an oven in which they could have baked a pumpkin pie. That doesn't mean pumpkins weren't available for the meal, though; they were probably served after being baked in the coals of a fire or stewed. Pumpkin pie became a popular dish on 17th-century American tables, though, and it might have shown up for Thanksgiving as early as 1623. ♦

# Arkansas Cooperative Extension Office celebrates centennial

In the 18th and 19th centuries, nearly everyone in the United States lived or worked on a farm. That was especially true for the state of Arkansas and its northeast corner.

Farmers were mostly untrained and held on to unproductive techniques, which meant many couldn't produce enough to feed their families, causing them to live in poverty. By 1900, major changes were under way via science and technology for the hope of a better life. Leaders in agriculture and government realized that advances had to be made in order to feed the nation's growing population. Science and technology were also progressing for farm research, and universities were finding strategies to increase efficiency and productivity.

In 1914, the Smith & Lever Act created the Agricultural Extension Service to provide research and training to American farmers. Today, titled the Cooperative Extension Service, it still provides the tools to educate and advance farm productivity, as well as many other services.



The Greene County Extension Office offers a wide variety of education and services to farm families, including 4-H, health, nutrition, money management, and parenting classes, Master Gardener's Program, Leadership programs, and much more.

The Greene County office is also home to Allen Davis, Debbie Still, Lance Blythe, Dave Freeze, and secretary Rose Dearin. Davis has seen many changes during his 33 years with the extension service. "We are always trying to provide new information and technology for all of our areas," he said. "Over the last 10 years technology has served as a challenge because things have become so automated that we are constantly having to grow and learn to stay on top of everything to be helpful to our producers."

Blythe, the extension agent over the 4-H program, focuses on helping youth develop life skills. "This program is actually over 100 years old," he said. "The things that worked to develop life skills back then, still work today. It's like they say: If it isn't broke, don't fix it."

Agriculture Extension Agent Freeze spends most of his time with row crop agriculture. "Within this county we have year in and year out 80,000 crops of rice generating revenue," he said. "It's my job to keep up with technology and make sure our farmers have what they need." Freeze also oversees the Master Gardener's Program, which leaves footprints all over the county ... such as the "Welcome to Paragould" sign, the trellis garden at the intersection of Hwy 49 and Court Street, and Centennial Garden in Downtown Paragould. "There has been a lot of growth in Greene County, and large growth needs beautification."

Most services are free, with the exception of a few provided by the state, local, and federal governments. All information is research-based. Check with your local extension service to learn about the programs and services they offer. To learn more about the extension service, contact your county extension office, or visit [www.uaex.edu](http://www.uaex.edu). ♦



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## Citywide Tailgate Party set for Nov. 7 at Paragould High School

**P**aragould High School will be the site of this year's Citywide Tailgate Party, hosted by MOR Media and other participating sponsors prior to the PHS-Greene County Tech football game on Friday, Nov. 7.

Purchase tickets from members of either school's booster clubs and enjoy bands, cheerleaders, food and getting your picture made by members of the MOR Media team, which will present the Spirit Trophy to the school with the most people in attendance.

Tailgating starts at 5 p.m. and goes until 7, when the game kicks off. ♦



Visit [www.myammc.org/TheFoundation/SpecialEvents](http://www.myammc.org/TheFoundation/SpecialEvents) to learn more about our holiday events!

# SEASON'S GREETINGS

You're invited to join the AMMC family for our traditional holiday events.

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 1

Auxiliary Tree Lighting & Foundation Holiday Auction  
6 p.m. • Herget Atrium @ AMMC

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

Holiday Tour of Homes & Chateau Holiday Open House  
2-4 p.m. • Chateau on the Ridge



# 2014 Travis Hedge Miracle Rodeo

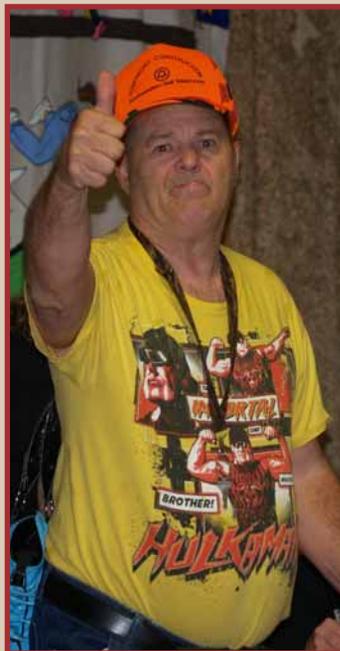
Volunteers came together to entertain special needs children for the 26th year at Paragould's B.C. Lloyd Building at the Greene County Fairgrounds



Travis Hedge, right, entertains Charles Willis and Robert Sparks with a story at the 2014 Miracle Rodeo.

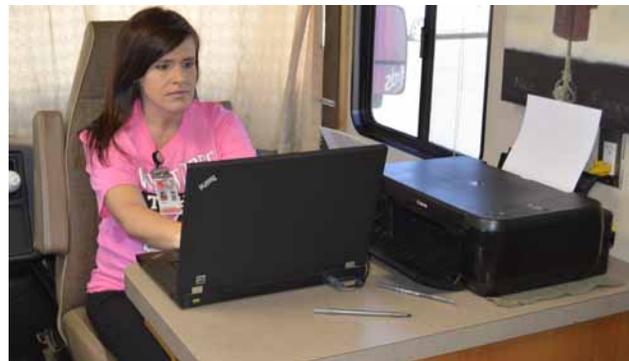


Michael Schalk of the Paragould Civitan Club visits with MOR Media's Brian Osborn. Some of those taking part in the Miracle Rodeo gave it a big "thumbs up" while enjoying posing with clowns, playing with the animals or belting out karaoke tunes.



# St. Bernards employees join in "Go Pink For The Cure Day" activities

Hospital staff members at St. Bernards were all decked out in pink to show support for women in their fight against breast cancer. The annual event raises money worldwide for breast cancer research.



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# AMMC to host Home for the Holidays Cooking Show

**A**rkansas Methodist Medical Center will host the Home for the Holidays Cooking Show to benefit its Community Diabetes Program at the Paragould Community Center gymnasium Thursday, November 6, 2014.

MOR Media will serve as one of the event sponsors when the doors open at 5:30 p.m., allowing guests to visit vendors before the cooking show starts at 6:30 p.m.

Cooking segments will be presented by local restaurateurs, featuring holiday dishes. AMMC's Certified Diabetes Educator Pat Malone, RN, will prepare an appetizer; Dave Aronson with Ironhorse BBQ will prepare an

AMMC's Home for the Holidays  
Cooking Show  
Nov. 7, 2014, at the Paragould  
Community Center  
Doors open at 5:30; show at 6:30

entrée and Nancy Hoke of Swirlz Frozen Treats and Coffee will share a delightful dessert. Light refreshments will be served. Audience members will receive a recipe booklet and will also have the opportunity to win door prizes, including pre-prepared portions of the dishes presented at the show. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door

and may be purchased by calling (870) 239-7016 or by visiting Swirlz.

Proceeds from the Home for the Holidays Cooking Show will benefit AMMC's Community Diabetes Programs. The programs are offered every other month and include an educational presentation as well as a mini-cooking show hosted by Pat Malone, RN, and Allison Hitt, RN, and the AMMC Education Department.

Additional sponsors of the event include Swirlz Frozen Treats and Coffee; Anesthesia Associates of Paragould; LIV Home and Design Center; Advance Medical Designs, Inc.; and Hays Supermarkets. ♦

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# GO PINK DAY

Staff members at NEA Baptist Memorial Hospital took part in the Go Pink Day activities, promoting efforts for the prevention and treatment of breast cancer.

Go Pink For The Cure Day brings about awareness of the importance of mammography and removes barriers that prevent women from seeking mammograms. ♦



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# Outstanding Teachers



Holly Todd

**G**etting to know Holly Todd, Second Grade teacher at Greene County Tech Elementary School:

I have been teaching 27 years.

I believe teaching is a special calling. I teach because I want to touch lives and invest in the future of our children.

**A fun teaching memory ...** My first year of teaching at Parkin Elementary, a student gave me "his" baseball as a Christmas present. It was wrapped in notebook paper and rubber bands. After Christmas break, he asked for the

baseball back.

I am married to Michael Todd, principal at Greene County Tech Junior High. We have two daughters who graduated from GCT. Ginger, a graduate of Arkansas State University, is a Mental Health Children's Therapist at Mid South Health Systems. She is married to Aaron Thornton, a math teacher and football coach at Greene County Tech. Morgan is a freshman at ASU, majoring in Early Childhood Education.

My family truly believes in reaching the lives of children. ♦

**G**etting to know Lantha Garmrath, Social Studies and Physical Education teacher at Paragould Jr. High School:

This is year 29 for me, seven at Stanford, 22 at Paragould.

Why I became a teacher: There was never a question as to why I was going to college. Yes, I went to play basketball, but I never had an interest in anything but to be a teacher/coach.

**A fun teaching memory ...** In 29 years,

there are so many funny and wonderful things I cannot name them all.

I have many happy memories of my coaching days at Stanford, an endless number of relationships with students I wouldn't be the same without.

I have three sons, Tyler (28), Alex (25), and John Koy (22), a daughter-in-law Lauren, and a granddaughter named Luxie Dean.

That is so far. We are growing. ♦



Lantha Garmrath

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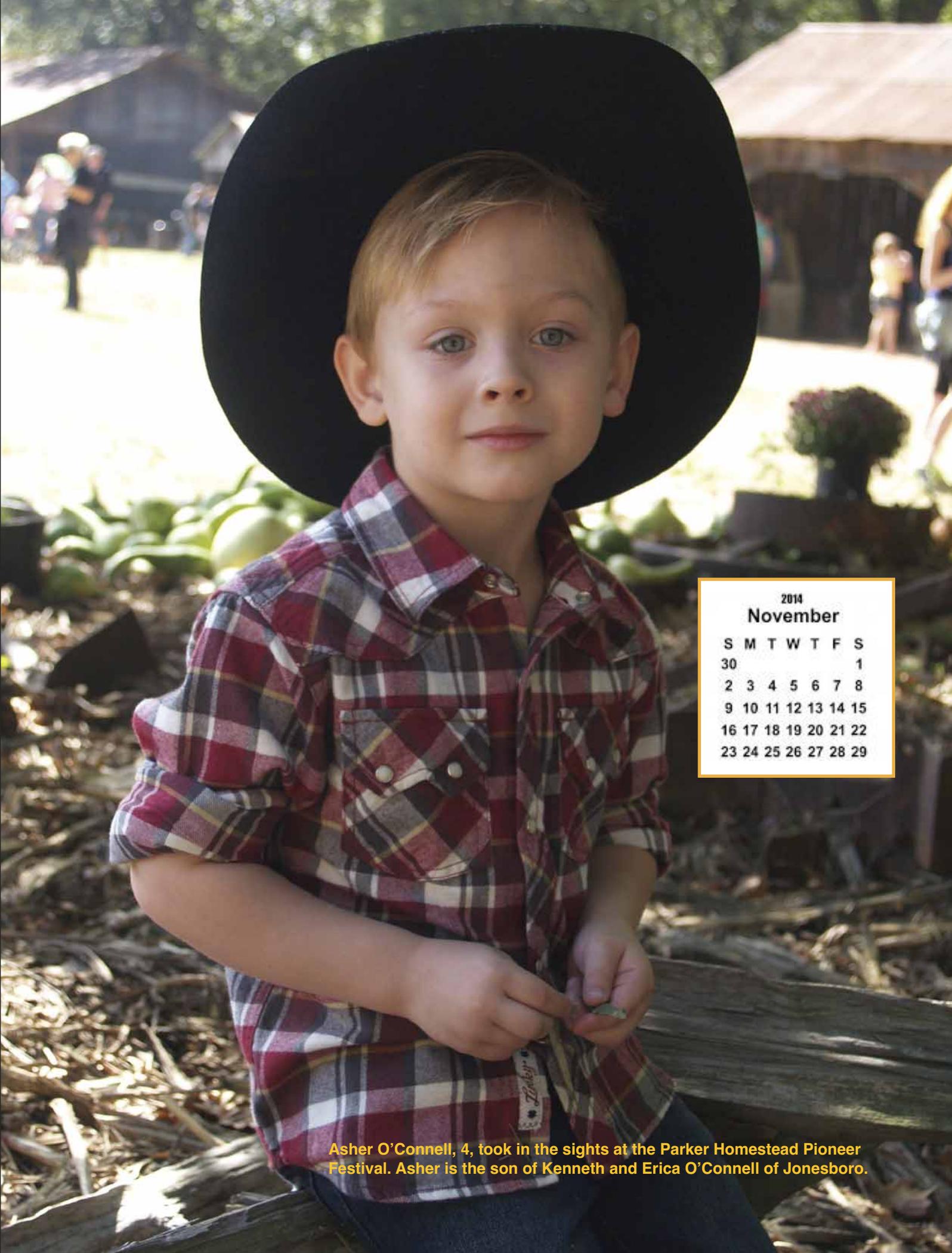
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November						
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Asher O'Connell, 4, took in the sights at the Parker Homestead Pioneer Festival. Asher is the son of Kenneth and Erica O'Connell of Jonesboro.



Local first responders staged an accident scene for area school students. Brent Cox, below, explained the rescue procedures to the students.

## Students get to see first responders at work in Rescue Squad demonstration

Paragould's Community Center played host to the Greene County School Safety Officer's Training Day in October.

Area school students were escorted to a "crash scene" and watched as local first responders staged a school bus-car accident and extracted victims from the automobile.

The Greene County Rescue Squad removed doors, the windshield and the car's roof in order to treat and stabilize the "crash" victims.

Members of the Paragould Police Department, Greene County Sheriff's Office, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center ambulance crew and the Air-Evac team also participated.

Brent Cox was the event's facilitator and led group discussions with School Resource Officers and students regarding topics like bullying and speaking up. ♦



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# Iberia Bank, Just Pretend Play and Party help students enjoy outing

**K**indergartners at Crowley's Ridge Academy, Greene County Tech Elementary, Paragould Primary and St. Mary's have the opportunity to stretch their imaginations during the 2014-15 school year with the help of Iberia Bank.

This marks the second year Iberia has issued a grant to elementary schools in the area, allowing them a field trip at Just Pretend Play and Party. Since the beginning of the project, the bank has paid for about 1,100 admissions to the children's museum.

"We look for opportunities that we think are really great for the community," said Kirk Brinkley, vice president of Iberia. "We just thought it was great to have an opportunity for kids to be creative. We thought Just Pretend was a great fit for us."

Last year the bank sent the area's second graders to play. Brinkley said the best part of giving the kids the chance to play was when they sent letters to the bank thanking the employees for the field trip.

Brinkley said when it comes to getting involved with the community, Iberia is always trying to be creative in its approach. He added he wants to reach out in unique and innovative ways, and partnering with Just Pretend has given him that chance.

"We believe a big imagination can light a creative fire within a child to last a lifetime," Brinkley said.

Sandra Holt, director of Just Pretend, said it takes the entire community to get others involved and that Iberia's grant for the schools added to that.

"We're thankful for businesses in our community that want to contribute to creative play and families," she said. ♦

-- Caitlin LaFarlette



Students can allow their imaginations to run wild at Just Pretend Play and Party, thanks to a grant issued by Iberia Bank in Paragould. The bank-sponsored field trip lets the kids experience things like shopping trips or career choices, all while having fun. "We believe a big imagination can light a creative fire within a child to last a lifetime," said Kirk Brinkley, vice president of Iberia.



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# United Way's Day of Caring



Above, a group of Netleton High School students pitches in; at right, the UPS team at the Habitat For Humanity House; and below, Jonesboro's Team CWL.

## Volunteers help make a big difference throughout Northeast Arkansas

**M**ore than 450 volunteer workers pitched in to help spruce things up around area non-profit organizations when The United Way of Northeast Arkansas held its 21st annual Day of Caring.

Jenny Keller, Director of Resource Development for NEA's United Way, said the turnout represented a big number for the day dedicated to helping others in the community.

Keller said the annual event serves as "the

kickoff to the United Way campaign. It's one of the largest volunteer days in Northeast Arkansas."

"Fifty-five projects altogether. I thought that was pretty amazing. It was a great day all around and we appreciate everyone who helped."  
-- Jenny Keller

Workers spent the day helping with chores like construction efforts, painting, cleaning and organizing, helping out on 55 projects overall.

"Fifty-five projects altogether," Keller said. "I thought that was pretty amazing. It was a great day all around and we appreciate everyone who helped." ♦



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Liz Ivener, above, volunteered her services for the Day of Caring, along with members of the Jonesboro Police Department, below.



Volunteer A-State and Student Activities Board, including Christina Chen, Dakota Galban, Amber Sanders, Brandon Haley, Rebecca Neumann and Mallory Perry.



Above, Melinda West, Dr. Gail Hudson, Dr. Shane Hunt, Nanette Heard, Brian Emison, and Jenny Keller chipped in to make a difference, as did the team from JCPenney, at left

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Jessica Hodges, with sons Blake, Peyton and Trent, has been living with diabetes for more than 25 years.

Photo by Tim Rand Photography

## For Jessica Hodges, knowledge is key to beating diabetes

**H**aving been forced to learn how to live with diabetes at a very young age, Jessica Hodges now preaches education at every opportunity.

"That's the big word for me ... education," said Hodges, now 34 and one who has dealt with Type 1 Diabetes since the age of 7. "Especially parents with kids dealing with diabetes. We have so much more information out there today, but what we really need is to be educated about it."

November is designated American Diabetes Month in an effort by the American Diabetes Association to raise awareness of the disease. For Hodges and her family, their lives were changed forever when she was very young.

"I remember Mom asking me continually to clean my room," she recalled, "and I always

said I was not feeling good. She said one day she saw me out in the hallway and I looked 'like death' and she got me to Le Bonheur (Children's Hospital) and my blood sugar was so high it was unreadable. They gave me insulin to get me out of DKA (Diabetic Ketoacidosis) and to prevent diabetic coma.

"I was there two weeks and I liked the way they did things back then," she continued. "Then, they kept you until they were sure you knew how to take care of yourself, and sure that your parents knew. I'm not so sure the education part is as good today."

From that point on she understood the importance of taking shots, staging frequent blood sugar checks and better meal planning. "Mom had to adjust her life, too, to care for me," she said. "She was a nurse so she knew

about the disease, but it was a lifestyle change for all of us."

Hodges said the personal care aspect of treatment is much improved today, thanks to the availability of insulin pumps, and control is "so much easier. Actually, having diabetes has helped my kids eat better and live a healthier lifestyle."

She has three sons -- Blake, 6; Trent, 5; and Peyton, 1 -- who understand what she is dealing with, "Especially the oldest one," she said. "He recognizes Mom's symptoms, and knows how to treat them if he has to. It's a challenge sometimes, with three boys. I have to make sure I check my blood sugar because I don't sit down to eat. I have to remind myself to give myself insulin.

"But even when I was a very young mother,"

she said, "I knew if I was not good at controlling it during my pregnancy it could cause complications with my child. Luckily, I had perfect control and a perfect pregnancy."

Actually, luck didn't have as much to do with it as discipline did, Hodges admitted. "I grew up with it. Once you make a lifestyle changeover, it becomes routine. I was good to control myself."

Which is exactly why she feels knowledge of diabetes and its causes and treatment are so important. "Education is my thing," she said. "It was kind of rough when I was an adolescent without a care in the world, but Mom took me to the Diabetes Ward at the hospital and let me see people with a leg amputated or someone who couldn't see because they wouldn't take care of themselves.

"People with Type 2 might not show the symptoms right now, but it will catch up with them. Just like with me; I was diagnosed with breast cancer in January but we caught it early enough that it's treatable. Catch it early ... don't just sit on it. Learn about it. Do something."

Hodges said her official diagnosis of Type 1 Insulin Dependent Juvenile Diabetes sounds "scary but you just have to stay on top of it, have your checkups, eat right, exercise. I stress to others about Type 2 that they can change what's going on with them. Type 1 is not preventable; Type 2 is."

She said it seems to her that much more time is spent by professionals today addressing Type 2 diabetes, with not enough information being dispensed about Type 1. "Things are much better in discovery, but education seems to have lost momentum," she said. "Maybe there's more out there about Type 2 because we feel like there are more people with it out there. But I want to reach out to people, to teach kids and parents who might be scared, lost or confused about diabetes. Follow up with your doctors, monitor your blood sugar, especially if you have a family history. Catching it early, before it's too high, is a step toward prevention. Unfortunately, too many kids are raising themselves these days and don't get this information.

"I haven't known any other lifestyle." ♦

-- Richard Brummett



Landon Brinkley lives life as a normal teen, despite having Type 1 diabetes.

**F**or young people facing the frightening prospects of life with Type 1 diabetes, Landon Brinkley is an example of meeting the challenge head-on.

For the last four years the Crowley's Ridge Academy 16-year-old has taken care of business, hardly missing a beat in the life of a busy teenager.

"My first thought was that I would have to change my whole life," Landon said, "and that I would never get to eat what I wanted to again. But it hasn't been that way at all."

The summer between the 6th and 7th grades, Landon said he was a bit overweight and had been working on an exercise machine at his home, but a suddenly alarming weight loss sent up a signal to him and his parents, Micah and Kelli.

"Over about four weeks, I lost like 25 pounds rapidly," he recalled. "My parents had noticed that I was really pale, and I was thirsty all the time. They noticed a few more things and looked it up online and pretty well knew. It came to their attention that I had a fruity smell on my breath, and that was a symptom, too."

He said one evening his mother decided "she couldn't let me go to bed that night" without doing something and took him to the hospital emergency room, where they learned his blood sugar was over 500.

"They put me on an IV and took me by ambulance to Children's Hospital," Landon said. There he and his parents were "somewhat trained on what to do" as far as recognizing warning signs and how to treat them, and he has been an active teen ever since.

"I've played basketball since the seventh grade," he said. "I still do things with friends, and I didn't really have to change my diet much at all. I can't have regular sodas; if I want a soda, it has to be diet. That's about it."

He gives himself a shot at mealtime and carries his testing meter, testing strips, alcohol swabs, needles and lancets wherever he goes and says the habit is now "second nature. It's a little of a bother to carry it around all the time, but it's not that big a deal. It's just something I have to make sure I take care of. You just have to discipline yourself to do what you have to do." ♦

-- Richard Brummett



*“Diabetes is  
a manageable,  
livable disease”*

Lisa Exum says diabetes is “a part of my life. It’s a daily challenge.”

**L**isa Exum remembers the day clearly. “It was May first, 1998,” she said. “I was 20 years old and I thought, ‘My life is over.’”

Obviously, it wasn’t.

Diagnosed with Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes at such a young age, Exum admits she was at first terrified because of her lack of knowledge about the disease.

“I had no idea, no comprehension, no ... nothing,” she recalled. “I thought no guy was going to want to marry someone with diabetes. I’m never going to get to have kids. I’m never going to get to live a normal life, that’s how I was thinking.

“But I just turned it over to God’s hands and I think maybe He gave me this disease so I can help educate others about it. Juveniles come up to me and I can talk to them about what they have to do.”

That was 16 years ago and today Exum is the mother of two boys and helps her husband Derek run their Warehouse Flooring business. She’s come a long way since that fateful day when her blood sugar was 580 and she was immediately hospitalized to begin life-saving treatments.

“It’s a minute-by-minute challenge,” she said. “One minute you’re fine, the next your zoned out but if you do what your doctors tell you to do and leave the rest up to God, it’s manageable.”

She said diabetes is best described by a Marmaduke teenager, Emma Farmer, who told her, “Diabetes is like a dance. When you master the steps, the song changes. I don’t think it can be said any better. If you take care of yourself and do what you’re told, you can live a healthy life. But you always have to be aware of your situation.”

Exum said her life was more restricted in the

past when she had to rely on daily shots to treat her condition, but switching to an insulin pump in 2001 “gives me freedom. If I want to go out with friends and eat at 7 o’clock at night, I can. My life is much more flexible.”

She said her routine is so normal that people sometimes are shocked to learn she’s diabetic. “To this day,” she said, “people will say, ‘You’re a diabetic? I had no clue.’ It’s just a part of my life. My kids know about it and it’s just something we deal with daily.”

She teaches classes at East Side Baptist Church and follows activities of sons Matthew and Wil, who are into archery competitions, admitting her “busy everyday life makes it hard to eat as healthy as we should when we’re on the go. But I do that in moderation and I’m usually fine. Diabetes is a manageable, livable disease when you take care of yourself.

“And that’s what I try to do ... every day.” ♦

-- Richard Brummett

# Getting educated on diabetes

“Even though it doesn’t show on the outside that something’s wrong, on the inside there is.”

Jenna Davenport

**I**n addition to studying and preparing for midterms and finals, ASU student Jenna Davenport has something extra on her plate to pay attention to. On May 5 she was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes.

“Type 1, you’re born with it but it develops over time,” Davenport explained.

This is not her first experience with diabetes. Her grandfather has Type 2 and a cousin has Type 1 as well. Davenport also said in junior high, a friend was diagnosed, but at the time they didn’t see it as a big deal. After being diagnosed herself, Davenport understands it better.

“Even though it doesn’t show on the

outside that something’s wrong, on the inside there is,” she said. “It’s a really big deal and hopefully they find a cure for it.”

Davenport has been raising money for the American Diabetes Association to help fund research for that cure by selling T-shirts and donation pin-ups at 22 Lou.

For the 18-year-old, the hardest part of her diagnosis is keeping her blood sugar in a healthy range.

“If I go really low I could pass out, or go into a diabetic coma,” she said.

She has to eat several times a day, with snacks in between meals, to stay within that range. She added being on dance team through high school and staying active

kept her symptoms from showing up. After Davenport’s activity levels fell, however, she began noticing her vision was blurry and she was fatigued.

“At least it happened after I graduated so it didn’t happen while I danced,” she said optimistically.

Now Davenport has an insulin pump she uses to check her blood sugar after every meal. She has to count the amount of carbs she takes in when she eats, as well. Davenport said it wasn’t easy at first to learn how to take care of that but it has gotten better for her.

“Everyone’s been so supportive of me,” she said, “and that’s helped me a lot.” ♦



An actual Blacksmith Shop is one of the many attractions at the Parker Homestead Festival.

## Parker Homestead Festival brings pioneer days to life

**A** taste of life in the 1800s is right at your fingertips at the Parker Pioneer Homestead, a recreated 19th century town located just south of Harrisburg.

Each year the Parker family holds an October festival, marking the end of sorghum harvest season and drawing thousands of visitors to the recreation of pioneer life. Sorghum cooking, butter churning, kettle corn popping, broom making, covered wagon riding and other attractions entertain guests for the two weekends in October.

The buildings are authentic pieces of history and workers dress the part, wearing the attire of our ancestors. A day at the Homestead is a literal walk through history. ♦



The sorghum molasses making process is a long and laborious task, beginning with a horse harnessed to a pole that turns the mill to extract the juice from the cane crop. Later, the juices are cooked in a large open vat, all done right in front of visitors to the Parker Homestead.

# Parker Homestead Festival:

## A Journey Back in Time

Visitors are provided the opportunity to experience life in pioneer times at the annual event



Participants look the part -- and play the part -- in the annual Homestead Festival, popping kettle corn, quilting, churning butter, and dressing in the styles of the day. The festival is held each year on successive weekends in October. For more information about the Parker Homestead, see their Facebook page or email [info@parkerhomestead.com](mailto:info@parkerhomestead.com).



Photos by  
*Richard Brummett*

## Gainesville Cemetery Ladies Auxiliary to host fundraiser

The Gainesville Cemetery, located just north of Paragould in the former Greene County seat of Gainesville, is a pre-Civil War landscape with a lot of character. Many prominent persons and war veterans are interred there, but as time has gone by generations of family members who have taken responsibility for its upkeep have started to dwindle.

The cemetery is strictly supported by the Gainesville Cemetery, Inc. board, a non-profit organization, with the Ladies Auxiliary being an extension of that. The Auxiliary consists of a group of women who donate their time, effort and support to make sure the cemetery is maintained, protected and preserved. All proceeds are tax deductible.

A Ladies Auxiliary Bazaar was started in the late 1960s by James Melvin and Pat Mullins. The Auxiliary is still going today, although several changes have been made since many of the original members have either passed on or are no longer able to participate. Only two members of the original auxiliary remain – Joy Sheppard and Hazel Williams.

Tonya Wray volunteered to head up the bazaar two years ago, and continues the event with the help of the other members. “Every year the Auxiliary holds a bake sale and bazaar on the Saturday before Thanksgiving



Upkeep of the historic Gainesville Cemetery will be boosted by the annual Ladies Auxiliary Bazaar, featuring homemade crafts, right.

to raise money for the cemetery,” she said. “In the past, most of the sales from the day have been from homemade baked goods and some crafts. This year, we have added new things that have created a lot of interest and helped with fundraising.”

The Auxiliary offers t-shirts for sale with the opportunity for local individuals and businesses to donate in order to have their names listed on the back of the shirt. “This has been a great way to help sponsors and the cause,” she adds. Sponsors are also given a “shout out” on the bazaar’s new Facebook page, as well. Wray said last year 75 shirts were sold, and this year the number should jump to 100. Each sponsor will also be displayed on Nov. 8 at Hays Plaza, as the ladies sell shirts not pre-ordered or displayed at the bazaar.

In addition, a silent auction will be held the day of the bazaar for items that have been donated by businesses and individuals. A few items included will be two St. Louis Cardinals

b a s e b a l l tickets, Justin ladies boots, a fire pit, and many gift certificates from local businesses. Santa Claus will also be at the event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a free story time with the children.

The Gainesville Cemetery Ladies Auxiliary Bazaar will take place Nov. 22, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Methodist Church building on Hwy 135 N in Gainesville. If you would like to support the Gainesville Cemetery either by sponsoring, donating, or becoming a member of the Ladies Auxiliary, contact them through Facebook or call Tonya Wray at 870-476-2436 or Ann Morgan at 870-565-8363. ♦

-- Joy Robinson



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# Lafe Fire Department holds annual fundraiser

The Lafe Fire Department held its annual picnic as a fundraising event, inviting residents to gather at the city park for fun and games.

Kids were treated to train rides, an inflatable slide, and games like the dunk tank, while grownups took part in horseshoe pitching contests and, more importantly, eating plenty of good food.

The annual fundraiser helps the fire department in the purchase of equipment and much-needed supplies. ♦



While the kids showed off their painted faces, rode the train and played games, firemen were in charge of cooking for the hundreds who attended the annual picnic.

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# Business Is Good

## AMMC RECOGNIZED WITH FIFTEEN AWARDS BY ARKANSAS HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould has been honored by the Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) for outstanding hospital advertising, marketing and public relations with fifteen awards, including four Diamond Awards and 11 Certificates of Excellence.

AMMC took the top Diamond Awards in the Advertising-Print Category for "Tailgating for a Cure" Men's and Women's Health Fair ads; in the Foundation Category for Project Hope; in the Publication-External Category for The Beacon and in the Writing Category for "There's More to This Than You See Right Now".

AHA Certificates of Excellence were awarded



Pictured left to right are Walter Johnson, AHA Chairman-Elect; AMMC Director of Marketing and Public Relations Shay Willis and Laura Pickens, Arkansas Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations (ASHMPR) President.

in the Annual Report Category for "This is my hospital"; in the Advertising-Print

Category for "Our Lights Are On For the Holidays" and AMMC Foundation Events; in the Advertising-Total Campaign Category for

The Joint Commission Top Performer; in the Foundation Category for Celebrating the Run for the Roses, Home for the Holidays

Cooking Show and "Olivia and the terrible, horrible, no good, very bad day"; in the Publication-Internal Category for the Friday Focus-Weekly Employee Newsletter; in the Publication-Special Purpose Category for the Dr. Stallcup Scholarship Endowment Fund and Spirit of Gratitude brochures and in the Writing Category for "The Hero Next Door".

The awards were presented to Director of Marketing and Public Relations Shay Willis at an awards dinner held at The Little Rock Marriott, in conjunction with the AHA's 84th Annual Meeting and Trade Show.

The Arkansas Hospital Association's awards program is held annually to recognize Arkansas healthcare institutions for their exemplary work in the field of communications.

A recognized leader, Arkansas Methodist Medical Center in Paragould provides progressive, compassionate healthcare to residents throughout Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri.

Additional information about AMMC is available at: [www.myammc.org](http://www.myammc.org).

The Arkansas Hospital Association's awards program is held annually to recognize Arkansas healthcare institutions for their exemplary work in the field of communications.

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## Business Is Good

### AETN, Arkansas libraries partner for Mister Rogers' Sweater Drive

The Arkansas Educational Television Network (AETN) and 15 libraries across the state have partnered to conduct a statewide Mister Rogers' Neighborhood Sweater Drive as a tribute to Fred Rogers and his example of being a caring neighbor. Sweaters will be accepted at partner libraries Nov. 1-29.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood' has long been a place where caring and consideration for others instills good feelings in all of us," AETN Executive Director Allen Weatherly said. "These messages and the values that children learn from the program and from PBS icon Fred Rogers are timeless.

"Fred Rogers' cardigan has come to represent the gentle spirit, warmth and nurturing of the neighborhood. As Mister Rogers himself once said, 'All of us, at some time or other, need help, and whether we're giving or receiving a sweater, each one of us has something

Members of the community are asked to donate new or gently worn sweaters at participating libraries or at AETN, 350 South Donaghey Avenue, Conway. Collected sweaters will be distributed by the Arkansas Salvation Army and various local charities to those in need as cooler weather approaches.

valuable to bring to this world.' This project connects Arkansans as neighbors."

Participating libraries include: Bainum Library and Learning Center in Glenwood, Cabot Public Library, Carlisle Public Library, Charleston Public Library, Cross County Public Library in Wynne, Delight Branch Library, De Witt Public Library, Dumas Public

Library, Earle Public Library, Elkins Public Library, Green Forest Public Library, Madison County Public Library in Huntsville, Sevier County Public Library in De Queen, Van Buren Public Library and West Poinsett Library in Weiner.

Members of the community are asked to donate new or gently worn sweaters at participating libraries or at AETN, 350 South Donaghey Avenue, Conway. Collected sweaters will be distributed by the Arkansas Salvation Army and various local charities to those in need as cooler weather approaches.

"The Salvation Army is excited to partner with AETN on this project that will bring warmth and comfort to our neighbors in need this holiday season," Salvation Army Central Arkansas Area Command Major Roger Glick said.

Additional information is available at [aetn.org/sweaterdrive](http://aetn.org/sweaterdrive). ♦

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Four houses will be featured in the annual Tour of Homes. They are owned by, top, Darrin and Kelly Malone; at right, Mardy and Julie Holmes; below right, Gene and Jamie McIlvoy; and below left, Dr. Kevin and Kim Mann.



## Annual Holiday Tour of Homes, Chateau's Open House are scheduled for Sunday, December 7, in Paragould

The Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Foundation and Women's Council will hold its Holiday Tour of Homes and Chateau on the Ridge Holiday Open House Sunday, December 7, from 2-4 p.m.

Homes on Tour include Mardy and Julie Holmes, Darrin and Kelly Malone, Dr. Kevin and Kim Mann and Gene and Jamie McIlvoy, all located in the Hill Home Subdivision off Pruet's Chapel Road in Paragould.

Don't miss your opportunity to tour some of Paragould's most exquisite homes while

they are decorated for Christmas. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 the day of the event. The tour begins at Chateau on the Ridge Assisted Living, located at 2308 Chateau Boulevard, and a complimentary shuttle will be provided to the homes. For more information or to purchase tickets, call The Foundation at (870) 239-7077.

In conjunction with the Holiday Tour of Homes, Chateau on the Ridge will host a Holiday Open House. The open house, also from 2-4 p.m., is free of charge and will feature holiday treats, décor, and free tours of Chateau's facility. ♦

## AMMC WELCOMES NEW SURGEON

Dr. Robert "Bob" Warner is one of the newest members of the medical staff at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center.

He joined the team in September of this year. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Biology and Chemistry from the University of Mississippi and his Medical Degree from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. He completed his General Surgery Residency at the Medical University of South Carolina. He also completed a Vascular and Thoracic Residency at The University Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.



Dr. Robert Warner

Dr. Warner is Board Certified by the American Board of Surgery, is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and is a member of the American Medical Association, the American College of Surgeons, the Southeastern Surgical Congress, The Society of Thoracic Surgeons and the Arkansas Medical Society. Dr. Warner brings more than 30 years of experience to AMMC.

Practicing together with fellow Surgeon Dr. Guy Peebles in the AMMC Surgery Clinic, Dr. Warner is now accepting patients for General, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery. To schedule an appointment at the AMMC Surgery Clinic, call 870-239-8107.

### Rogers is new Nurse Practitioner

Kelly Rogers, APRN, CRNFA, is one of the newest members of the medical staff at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center. She joined the team in August of this year. She

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received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Harding University in Searcy, and her Masters Degree in Adult Health Nursing from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

She is a Certified Registered Nurse First Assistant (CRNFA) and a Certified Nurse



Kelly Rogers

Operating Room (CNOR). She is a member of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, the American Association of Operating Room Nurses and Sigma Theta Tau-the International Society of

Nursing. She brings more than 20 years of experience to AMMC.

She is practicing together with surgeons Dr. Bob Warner and Dr. Guy Peebles in the AMMC Surgery Clinic. To schedule an appointment at the AMMC Surgery Clinic, call 870-239-8107.

#### Orange is new member of AMMC staff

Dr. Betty Orange is now a member of the medical staff at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center. She joined the team in July of 2014. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree in Microbiology from the University of Oklahoma in Norman, OK, and her Doctor



Dr. Betty Orange

of Osteopathy Degree (D.O.) from Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in Tulsa. She completed her internship at Hillcrest Health Center in Oklahoma City and her residency in Obstetrics and

Gynecology at Deacon West Medical Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

Orange came to AMMC from Just for Women Health Center, P.A. in Little Rock, where she was in private practice.

She is Board Certified by the American Osteopathic Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology and is a Fellow of The American College of Osteopathic Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOGG).

To schedule an appointment at the AMMC Women's Clinic, call 870-239-8307. ♦

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# HAPPENINGS



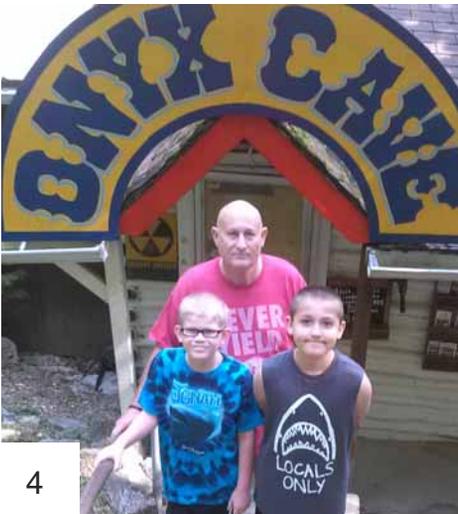
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## HAPPENINGS

### 1. Award Winner

Recently, Theresa Anderson of ATA Black Belt Academy in Paragould attended a Regional ATA Tournament in Conway with some of her students. Each student was awarded varying accolades. Pictured is Cooper Clayton with Anderson. Cooper was awarded a medal for "Best Memory" in the traditional form competition. Cooper's ranking is yellow belt at the ATA Black Belt Academy. Cooper is the son of Brian and Gretchen Clayton of Paragould. He attends First Grade at St. Mary's.

### 2, 3. Star Student and Excellent Educator

The Paragould Rotary Club honored Star Student Allison Hampton, from the Marmaduke School District, as well as Excellent Educator, Malissa Blackburn, also from Marmaduke. Allison, at left in photo #2, is the daughter of Rodney and Myra Hampton and is a senior with a GPA of 4.18, and President of the Senior Class. She is a graduate of Paragould Leadership Class 8, is on the Lady Greyhound basketball team, the track team, and is a member of several school organizations. Allison's future plans include attending Arkansas State University where she plans to obtain a Master's degree in Business Administration and would like to work in the area of Healthcare Administration.

Malissa, at right in photo #3, has a BSE in Elementary Education and an MSE in Reading from Arkansas State University. She also has an

MSE in Library Media from the University of Central Arkansas, and is serving in her 28th year in the Marmaduke School District, where she currently serves as the high school media specialist. She has worked previously for 19 years teaching 3rd grade, one year teaching remediation, and six years serving as a literacy coach or literacy facilitator.

### 4. Bucket List Trip

Onyx Cave in Eureka Springs was on the "bucket list" for Will Fisher and Clayton Williams, grandsons of Jesse and Lisa Hancock. Pictured are, front from left, Will and Clayton; and back, Jesse.

### 5. Textbook Brokers Scholarship

Textbook Brokers, a Jonesboro book and apparel store dedicated to serving students at Arkansas State University, has committed to providing four total scholarships per semester to the College of Business and to a pair of incoming freshmen at A-State. The six-figure financial commitment made by Textbook Brokers will provide \$10,000 worth of scholarships each semester for A-State College of Business students. Two of the scholarships, each valued at \$2,500 per semester, will be available for upper classmen in the College of Business, while the other two are designated for incoming freshmen. Pictured are, from left, Bobby Lorimer (co-owner), Rocky Wilson (store manager), Dr. Shane Hunt (dean of the A-State College of Business, and David McClain (A-State Director of Development). ♦

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# Eagle Flight Fun Run



The Fourth Annual Greene County Tech Eagle Flight Fun Run , a 1 1/2 mile run or walk to promote a healthy lifestyle to the children, was held for GCT students. Prizes were awarded to the top five male and female finishers of each division.



While students cheered on their classmates, below left, Elementary School Assistant Principal Keith Davis, above, encouraged a runner to make it to the finish line. Winners were presented medals, below.



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A promotional graphic for radio station 99.3. It features a stylized pink and white logo on the left, a green banner with the text 'radio more like you 103.9', and large, bold, pink and white text on the right that reads 'will get BIGGER and LOUDER!' and '@ 99.3'. At the bottom left, there is a website URL 'neajillradio.com' and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook.

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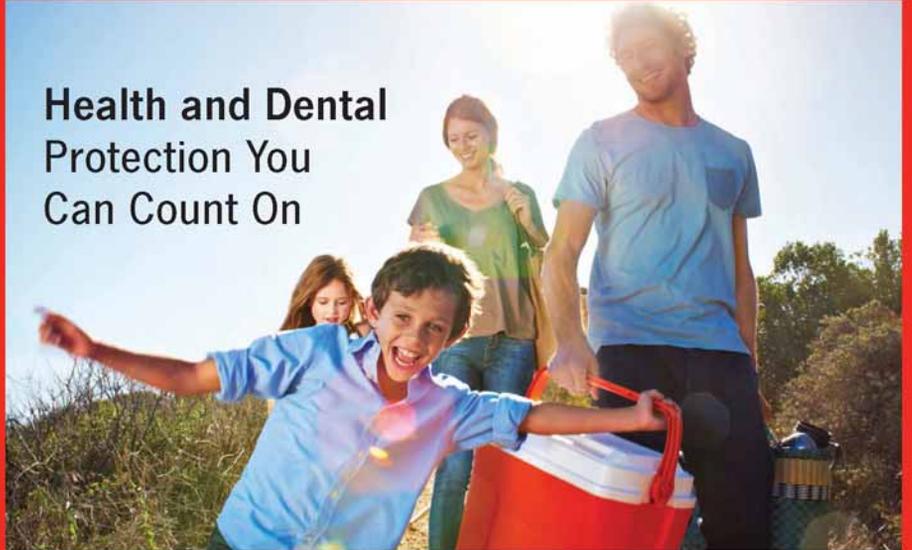


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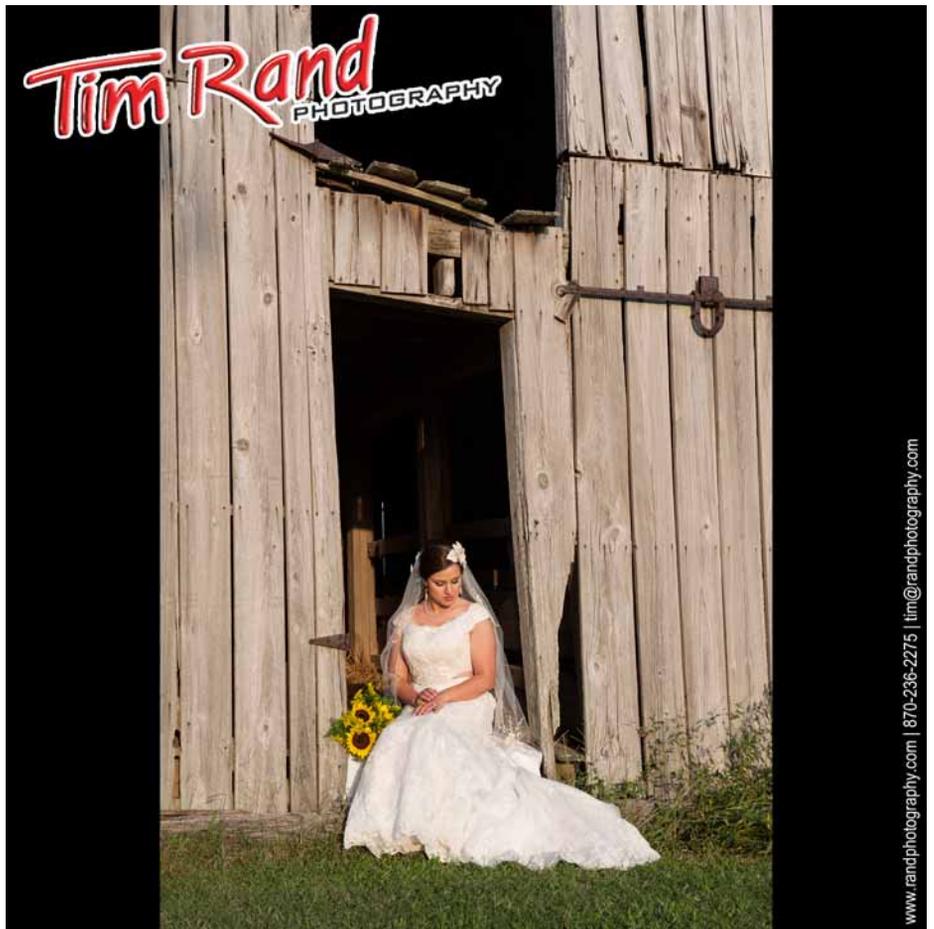
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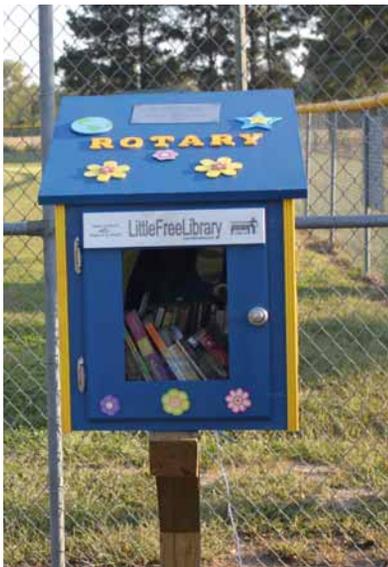


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## Rotary Club dedicates Free Library in memory of Melanie Posey



### Take a book, read a book, share a book; that's how the Free Library works

The Paragould Rotary Club hosted a dedication ceremony for the Free Library it sponsored at the Rotary Softball Complex.

The ceremony began with a prayer, followed by poetry readings about "Good Books and Good Times" and outlined the importance books make in the lives of both children and adults.

The Free Library was dedicated in memory of long time Rotarian, former president, and multiple Paul Harris Fellow Melanie Heath Posey. On hand were Melanie's family, friends, and fellow Rotarians.

The Little Free Library Project started with a

sign that read "Free Books" in 2009 in Hudson, Wisconsin. Todd Bol built the first Free Library (a birdhouse-looking library) in tribute to his mother, who was a former teacher and lifelong reader. Today there are more than 10,000 Little Free Libraries in over 50 countries around the world. The mission of the Free Library includes:

- To promote literacy and the love of reading
- To build a sense of community
- To build more than 2,510 libraries around the world

The concept of the Free Library is to take a book, then return a book. Everyone is invited to stock the library with some of their childhood favorites, then when finished

reading a book bring it back to share with others to read and enjoy. Free Libraries can be custom built or purchased from The Free Library Project. The Paragould Rotary Club had a custom built library constructed by Tony Lucius, husband of the current Rotary President Amy Lucius.

During the dedication ceremony, Amy stated that, "Melanie Heath Posey loved books and loved children, which is a great combination that made this the perfect community project for Rotary to participate in, which would honor her in the highest way possible."

At the end of the ceremony, Melanie's children, John Thomas and Katherineine, were presented special books to enjoy. ♦



# All in the spirit of fellowship and fun

Lafe Baptist Church held an Old-Fashioned Day, and congregation members followed up a potluck meal with games, music and fellowship on the church grounds



Allen Newell and David Vanhorn shared a laugh, above, while Ronnie Howe and his sons Payton and Tyler, left, dressed in the style of their ancestors. Below left, Theresa White entertains; below right, Lexi Gipson and Ellie Walker play checkers.



Nancy Poe and her grandson, Blake Gipson, vie for a football.



Pastor David Poe, left, and Associate Pastor Bill Muse, right, enjoy the games.

# It took me a while, but I finally got the point about father-son hunts

**I**t has been almost 50 years since my dad bought me my first shotgun. I was 13 when he came in with a brand new single-shot .20 gauge, presenting it to me with a look of immense pride. Unfortunately, I had neither asked for a gun nor insinuated I had a desire to hunt and I'm sure I gave him much the same look I did three years later when he said he had gotten me a part-time job: I don't remember indicating that I was *looking* for a job – or wanted one – but, like the gun, there it was.

My problem at 13 was that I still thought I would someday be a professional athlete, and spending Saturdays tromping around the woods looking for squirrels paled in comparison to being on the field or the court hitting, throwing, bouncing or catching a ball. Most of my friends had Saturdays reserved for our sandlot games, and that's where I longed to be from early morning until sundown.

I didn't really know how to tell Dad "thanks, but no thanks" regarding the gun or the prospects of hunting, something I did very rarely over the coming years.

When I was 15 or 16 several relatives were in town during the Thanksgiving break and it was decided we were all going rabbit hunting. I could tell Dad wanted me to come along it became clear that all my uncles and cousins – and Dad – wanted me to get my first rabbit. It sort of became a priority, and as everyone spread out over the prime hunting area. I was told to stand on the railroad track and wait for Uncle Conrad's dog to jump one. The dog, I

## Get Rich

By Richard Brummett



was told, was an expert rabbit dog and would flush one out of the brush, whereupon it would run to the railroad tracks and I could shoot it.

"Don't shoot the dog," more than one relative said, punctuating the orders with a laugh, a laugh aimed at a novice hunter and I was reminded to just wait for the dog to do his thing and when the rabbit crossed tracks, fire away. Sure enough, the dog started barking and a rabbit emerged from the thicket, sprinting at top speed right alongside the tracks. I had the hammer back and was waiting, following the directions to the letter: When that fellow finally crossed the tracks, he was going to be mine and maybe then we could actually go in out of the cold, put on our basketball stuff and head to the gym.

But the rabbit was a crafty old fellow. He hadn't lived to be however old he was in rabbit years by being a fool; he wasn't going to cross the tracks, heading due north instead. As I waited and waited, he began to look smaller and smaller as he sprinted almost out of sight. I was admiring his ingenuity when my dad fired the shot that got him.

When everyone gathered on the tracks to hear my reasoning behind letting the rabbit run free, I was honest: "You said wait until he crossed the tracks. He never crossed them."

Everyone seemed to find that immensely funny – everyone except me, who at that precise moment thought hunting was an extremely stupid sport and didn't appreciate being the target of all the laughter and pointed jabs. I put the gun away that day and didn't use it again for many years. In fact, when I moved out of town for a short while I didn't even take it with me, leaving it with Dad in case he wanted to use it.

It was upon my return to my hometown, when I was almost 30, that I began to understand.

Hunting season arrived and Dad was sad because he had no partner. My uncle, who had been his companion over the years, had passed away so when I said I'd go with him, his face lit up like he had hoped mine would all those years ago when he first gave me the gun. From that time on we were a team, and I have to say some of the best days of my life were spent with him, exploring new patches of woods, trying to outdo the other, sharing ... life.

That's one of those things I wish I could go back and change. I wish I had spent as many weekends as possible between the ages of 13 and 30 hunting with my dad because I came to realize it wasn't so much about the hunt as it was about being together, talking, laughing, loving.

I go hunting as often as time allows now, using that same old .20 gauge. It reminds of my father, and reminds me of the love that went into purchasing and presenting it to his son, even if it took him several years to figure it out. ♦

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Mayor Mike Gaskill poses with Greene County Tech PACE students.

## GCT 5th-graders learn about history of Paragould, Greene County

**G**reene County Tech's 5th grade PACE students went on a tour of Paragould in October.

Students were given the chance to tour many establishments that help run their city, exploring the old courthouse and seeing the many war memorials on the grounds.

They were also given a guided tour by County Judge Jerry Shipman of the new courthouse. They saw all three courtrooms and were informed on what each one is used for.

Another stop on the tour was The Greene County Museum. There students learned about Greene County's deep history, and how Paragould received its name. Students were amazed at all they learned at the historic location in Paragould.

The fourth stop was Reynolds Park, where the students had a picnic and enjoyed the lake and the geese. The fifth stop was the Linwood Cemetery, where they learned about its history and toured the mausoleum. Students were intrigued to discover that a famous mobster, Frank "Jelly" Nash, from the 1930s is buried there.

The last stop was City Hall, where students were able to talk and ask questions with Mayor Mike Gaskill and Chief of Police Todd Stovall. ♦



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## Tree lighting ceremony, auction set for Dec. 1 at Arkansas Methodist

The Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Auxiliary and The Foundation will host their annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Auction Monday, December 1, at 6:00 p.m. in Paragould.

Beautifully decorated Christmas trees, swags, wreaths, poinsettias and centerpieces donated by local individuals and organizations will be auctioned off with the proceeds benefiting The Foundation at AMMC.

Activities will be held in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Herget Atrium. For more information, call The Foundation at (870) 239-7077. ♦

**WHAT:** Auxiliary Christmas Tree Lighting and The Foundation's Christmas Auction

**WHEN:** Monday, December 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Herget Atrium

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## Birth Announcements



Photo by Melissa Donner Photography

Jax Hunter Crossno

### Crossno

**L**ogan and Diedra Crossno of Paragould announce the birth of their son, Jax Hunter Crossno.

The baby weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19 1/2 inches long.

He was born at NEA Baptist Hospital.

Grandparents are Retha Kappelman, Ron and Nancy Robinson, Jeff and Chevonna Rousseau, and Lavaughn and Cyndi Crossno. ♦

## Engagement Announcements



Photo courtesy of Photography by Amaris

Rebeckha Mae Cate and Steve Eason

### Cate-Eason

**R**ebeckha Mae Cate and Steve Eason have announced their plans for a November wedding.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Boyce and Emma Cate of Paragould.

The prospective groom is the son of Larry and Serena Eason, also of Paragould.

The wedding will take place Saturday, November 8, 2014, at the Walcott Baptist Church. ♦

Would you like to include your engagement or birth announcements in Premiere Magazine? All you have to do is email your information to:

[editor@premiere-magazine.com](mailto:editor@premiere-magazine.com)

or call 870-236-7627 for more information.



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# November

## — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**39th ANNUAL HARVEST CRAFT SHOW**, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Paragould Community Center. FREE admission, door prizes, over 70 participating vendors, and concessions! Kids 12 and under can make a free craft.

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**

**31st ANNUAL LITTLE MISS JONESBORO PAGEANT**, at the Nettleton Performing Arts Center on the Nettleton High School campus in Jonesboro. Registration from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, first division starting at 2:30 pm. With 9 age divisions, everyone goes home with an award of some type! For more information, please contact Alan or Lesia Oldman at (870) 930-5548 or (870) 974-2032.

### **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

**CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE**, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the "One and Only" Downtown Paragould.

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4**

**AMMC HOSTS BREAST-FEEDING CLASS**, held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7**

**DOWNTOWN JONESBORO MINGLE & JINGLE**. Come kick off the holiday season with Downtown Jonesboro merchants including Soho, Gearhead Outfitters, Amy Long Photography, Abilities Unlimited

Thrift Store & Boutique and MORE! For more information, visit [www.downtown-jonesboro.com](http://www.downtown-jonesboro.com)

### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

**AMMC HOSTS INFANT SAFETY CLASS**, held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

### **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

**JOE WESSELL'S "ULTIMATE OLDIES SHOW"**, 7:00 pm, at The Collins Theatre in Downtown Paragould.

**Other show dates:** Saturday, November 15th

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**JOY OF GIVING MARKET**, at First United Methodist Church in the Welcome Center, 404 West Main Street, from 8:00 am to 1:30 pm. Gift items, jewelry, home decor, food, crafts, and more! All proceeds benefit local, national, and international missions. For more information, call (870) 239-8541 or visit [www.fumcparagould.org](http://www.fumcparagould.org)

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**JUNIOR AUXILIARY'S BLUE JEANS AND BBQ**, doors open at 6:30 pm, at the Red Goose Restaurant & Catering. Tickets are \$35/person or \$60/couple and can be purchased from any JA member.

### **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**AMMC HOSTS CHILDBIRTH PREPARATION CLASS**, held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center, from 10:00 am to

3:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

**Other class dates:** November 22nd

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

**MOMMY AND ME BREAST-FEEDING SUPPORT GROUP MEETING**, brought to you by Arkansas Methodist Medical Center and the Greene County Health Unit. Held in the Professional Office Building at AMMC. 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm. For more information, call the Greene County Health Unit at (870) 236-7782.

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

**"DELIGHTFUL DESSERTS" COMMUNITY DIABETES PROGRAM**, AMMC Certified Diabetes Educators Pat Malone, RN, and Allison Hitt, RN, will prepare guiltless holiday treats and present Diabetes News - the year in review. Held from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in the Arkansas Methodist Medical Center Professional Office Building. RSVP by November 19th by calling (870) 239-7016.

### **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

**'NUNSENSE'**, a dinner theater presented by The Greene County Fine Arts Council. Held at the Red Goose Grand Hall. **Other show dates:** November 21st & 22nd

### **MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24**

**AMMC HOSTS HEALTHY PREGNANCY CLASS**, held in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Call the AMMC Education Department at (870) 239-7016 for pricing and to register.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24**  
**KASU'S BLUEGRASS MONDAYS**, with The Rigney's at The Collins Theatre, 7:00 pm.

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25**  
**AMMC HOSTS BLOOD DRIVE WITH THE AMERICAN RED CROSS**, from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Auditorium in the Professional Office Building at Arkansas Methodist Medical Center.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29**  
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## *Recurring* EVENTS

**First Monday of every month:** Paragould Young Professionals First Monday Lunch, noon.

**Every Wednesday:** Perking on Pruett, 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m. At Something Sweet. Find out what is happening in the One and Only downtown Paragould. Your input is welcome.

**Second Tuesday of every month:** The Greene County Wildlife Club meets at the Paragould Community Center beginning at 6:00 pm.

Greene County Master Gardeners present a Brown Bag Lunch Program at the Greene County Library, 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 12-1. Bring a lunch and enjoy a free gardening presentation.

**First & Third Thursday of every month:** Alive After Five, Downtown street market in Downtown Jonesboro.

**Second Thursday of every month:** The Compassionate Friends, 7:00 p.m. Southside Community Church Conference Room, 2211 Jones Road. For parents grieving the loss of a child. [tcofnortheast-arkansas@yahoo.com](mailto:tcofnortheast-arkansas@yahoo.com).

**Second Thursday of every month:** The Memory Cafe, support group

for those having memory, dementia or Alzheimer's at 1:00 pm at Swirlz Yogurt and Coffee.

**Second Wednesday of every month:** St. Mary's Spaghetti Dinner, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 for all you can eat spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and drink. At St. Mary's Catholic Church in Paragould.

**Every Third Monday:** Greene County Retired Teachers Meeting, 11:30 a.m. at Grecian Steak House. All retired Greene County school personnel are invited.

**Every Third Tuesday:** Alzheimer's Support Group with the Alzheimer's Arkansas Association and Absolute Care Management, 1:00 pm at the Paragould Library.

**Fourth Tuesday of every month:** Greene County Master Gardener Meeting, Greene County Library, 6 pm, guests welcome.

**T.O.P.S. (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly)** Wednesday mornings at the Paragould Community Center in Room E. Private Weigh-In at 8:00 a.m.; support meeting at 8:30 a.m. May attend one meeting as a guest.

# Winners At Glen Sain



The four Glen Sain auto dealerships located in Kennett, Rector and Paragould celebrated the company's 60th anniversary with each dealership holding drawings for a 50-inch flatscreen TV.

Winners at the two Paragould dealerships included Garry McCarroll of Paragould at Glen Sain Ford and Winston Hollis of Paragould at Glen Sain Motors. All locations also drew names for the grand prize -- a 60" Bad Boy Mower -- which went to Debbie Gossett of Paragould. ♦

Debbie Gossett, left, with the grand prize; Winston Hollis, right, won one of four TV sets given away.



# Tru Boutique

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## STAY TUNED

What's in Store For Next Month

Feature



For December, Premiere writers will focus on The Spirit of Giving, featuring area people who go out of their way to show kindness to others.

Christmas



We will again bring you interesting stories related to the Christmas holiday.

Events



The Travis Hedge Miracle Rodeo

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